

Portage Lake News.

Ahmed Temple, Mystic Shrine, Elects Officers.

Members of the Above Order

Likely to Give a Ball in the Near Future—A Traveling Man's Experience.

There are members of Ahmed Temple, of the Mystic Shrine in Houghton county to whom the election of officers at Marquette a few days ago will be of interest.

The officers are: Potentate—Frank E. Ketchum, Marquette. Chief Rabbi—W. L. Winslow, Ironwood. Assistant Rabbi—Frank K. Baker, Menominee.

The following are officers appointed by the potentate: First Ceremonial Master—C. D. Hanchette, Hancock. Second Ceremonial Master—W. F. Mitchell, Sault Ste. Marie.

Director—T. D. Meads, Marquette. Captain of the Guards—Mark Elliot, Palmer. Outer Guard—H. J. Hopkins, Marquette. Alchemist—R. H. Shields, Houghton. Assistant Alchemist—Joseph Vandiventer, Ishpeming.

Delegate to Imperial Council at Detroit next June—F. M. Moore, Marquette. Alternate—P. E. Ketchum, Marquette.

In connection with the above it may be stated that the nobles residing in the copper country will in all probability give a ball during the winter. Whenever given Shrine balls are usually the swiftest of the swell.

A traveling man, who often visits this section, a few days ago purchased a thousand-mile book of the D., S. & A. agent at St. Ignace. The book, by some mistake, was dated 1894, and the limit was punched in the cover at the day he bought it instead of a year ahead.

The purchaser rode with several conductors, getting up to Marquette and neither of them noticed it, but when he got on Conductor Sundberg's run, Marquette to Houghton, the ticket was spotted at once. The owner explained, but explanations did not go with the autocrat of the train. He took up the book and wanted the fare. This the traveler refused and as a compromise Sundberg telegraphed to St. Ignace. No answer was received by the time Houghton was reached, but Sundberg held onto the book. The owner said he was going to have the book and swore out a warrant, detaining the train ten minutes, when instructions were received to issue a new book.

This was done and everything seemed to be settled, but yesterday morning the traveling man was explaining the experience to a friend, when, upon taking out the book to illustrate, he was knocked clean out to find that it had neither date nor limit punch at all.

It is altogether probable that the Atlantic mine people will try to get the coming legislature to so change the boundaries of Adams and Hancock townships as to include the new mill site in the former. This every resident of Hancock will oppose and with good reasons and weighty arguments.

"Why," said one citizen recently, "look at the way Hancock's valuation has decreased. The Osceola mill used to be valued at \$110,000; it has moved away. The Quincy mill paid on \$120,000 valuation; it has moved away. The Sturgeon River mill was on the roll at \$40,000; it has moved away. Now the Atlantic mill has come in and they want to move the township away!"

Frankie McDonald and five of the "boarders" were brought before Justice Brand Saturday on complaint of a resident of Houghton. The former was fined \$25 and costs which she paid, but the five did not have the "ten and costs" and will board with Sheriff Dana the remainder of his term and a few days with Sheriff Leach.

The old bakery building, known as Wern's bakery, opposite the Hancock cemetery, occupied by August Tange as a bakery, caught fire Saturday morning early. The West Hancock firemen turned out and did a good job saving the building with only a burned interior.

The residents of the west portion of Hancock are able to appreciate what benefit a snow plow would be. They say they do not expect one this winter, but that there will be one next winter, if they have to raise the plow to the dignity of a political issue.

Washington Gardner, secretary of State, will lecture tomorrow evening at the Y. M. C. A. Hall on "Nine-Tenths of the Nineteenth Century." The lecture is for the benefit of the building fund of the Portage Lake Baptist church.

The case of T. H. Hoard and F. D. Carter vs James C. Corbin and William J. Groome, assumpsit, has been commenced in the circuit court. M. J. Sherwood, of Marquette, is plaintiff's attorney.

James R. Dee returned from Detroit Saturday. In company with Congressman-elect Sheldon he called on Major McKinley at Canton, meeting both the president-elect and his wife.

The West Hancock firemen, on the strength of their work at the fire last Saturday morning, will probably enter a bona fide team at the next Upper Peninsula tournament.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Cooper will entertain a number of young people tomorrow evening at progressive euchre.

Mrs. D. Crawford and daughter, Miss May Monroe, will go to Detroit in a few days to spend the winter.

Henry Murtomaki has commenced suit for divorce in the circuit court from his wife, Gustava.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of supervisors will be held tomorrow evening.

Will Mill, of Lake Linden, has gone to Oberlin, Ohio to spend the holidays.

English Drinking Songs.

The best of the English drinking songs were written by the dramatists of the seventeenth century, men who trolled out their vigorous sentiments, linked sweetly together in flowing verse, without the smallest thought or fear of shocking anybody. Frankly indecorous, they invite the whole wide world to drink with them, to empty the brimming tankard passed from hand to hand and to reel home through the frosty streets, where the watchman grins at their unsteady steps, and quiet sleepers, awakened from dull dreams, echo with drowsy sympathy the last swelling cadence of their uproarious song. Where there is no public sentiment to defy even bacchanalian rioters and bacchanalian verses cease to be defiant. What admirable good temper and sincerity in Fletcher's generous impetuosity!

Drink today and drown all sorrow; You shall perhaps not do it tomorrow. Best, while you have it, has your breath; There is no drinking after death.

Then let us well, boys, for our health. Who drinks well loves the commonwealth. And he that will be good and sober Falls with the leaf, still in October.

Upon this song successive changes have been sung, until now its variations are bewildering, and to it we owe the ever popular and utterly indefensible glee roared out for generations by many a lusty tavern chorus:

He who goes to bed and goes to bed sober Falls as the leaves do and dies in October. But he who goes to bed and goes to bed mellow Lives as he ought to do and dies an honest fellow.

—Agnes Repplier in Atlantic.

Solidified Petroleum.

The claim some time ago set forth by Paul d'Humy, a French naval officer, of having originated a process for the successful solidification of petroleum for commercial and industrial purposes has been further explained by him. From this account, summarized in The Progressive Age, it appears that heavy common oil has been converted by this inventor into a solid block, as hard as the hardest coal, burning slowly, giving off an intense heat and showing not the slightest sign of melting, a ton of such fuel representing as many as 30 tons of coal, and the space occupied by one ton of it being about three cubic feet, as against the large space required for the coal. At a recent gathering of experts, M. d'Humy exhibited samples of the article and experimented with them. On the table were several cakes of the solidified petroleum and of low grade oils of various sizes and shapes, and in addition to the cakes there were samples of the same fuel in dry powder and paste, the petroleum powder and paste mixed together and pressed forming a homogeneous mass, with a great specific gravity, hard almost as stone, and, when burning, giving off a flame 300 times its own volume and a heat well nigh as great as oxygen. Tests to determine the production of smoke or smell failed to indicate the emanation of either of these.

Machinery Lubrication.

The results of some valuable experiments on the lubrication of machinery bearings have been set forth by Mr. Devrance in an address before the Civil Engineers' institute, London. His observations show that olive oil becomes black and thick after passing through the bearings several times. This oil, after filtration, was composed of 16 per cent of oleate of lead, 5.57 per cent of oleate of acid and 74.63 per cent of oleate of acid and glycerin, the oleate acid in the olive oil appearing to attack lead, zinc and copper with great activity. Thus disks of metals used in the manufacture of bearings were immersed in oleate acid, occasionally drawn up out of the acid so as to be exposed to the air. Lead and zinc rapidly corroded away, copper was corroded to a less extent, while tin and antimony were not appreciably affected. In regard to the compressibility of alloys, it is suggested by this authority that no alloy be used until it is satisfactorily demonstrated that its point of first yield is considerably above the greatest load or shock to which it will be subjected in use. In testing the effect upon soft metal bearings when the shaft sustained a heavy pressure a piece of iron was found to leave no mark upon a surface softer than itself.

Peacocks generally scream vociferously when a change of weather is impending. In the countries where these birds are native the sign is regarded as unfailing.

Kublai Khan, the first mogul emperor of China, was called the Murderer, from the tragedies in his own family.

OFFICE SEEKERS' WOES

Few Plums Left For the Hungry.

CIVIL SERVICE RULES INTERFERE.

President Cleveland May Issue an Order to Protect Fourth Class Postmasters—A Pension and Retirement Scheme—Mutterings of Discontent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(Special.)—Already the mutterings of discontent are heard among the office seekers. Their chief complaint is that there is nothing left for them. Nearly all the government places have been put under the civil service, and the dreams of appointments to posts with fat salaries attached, which so many partisans of the successful ticket in the late campaign have been indulging, are found to be nothing but dreams after all. In the national capital there is practically nothing left for the rank and file. Of 18,000 or 19,000 employees of the government in the District of Columbia only a few hundred will be filled by the Republicans when they come into power. These are cabinet offices, heads of bureaus, private secretaries, a few chiefs of divisions. It is true that the only patronage which a cabinet officer now has directly under his control is a private secretary and a chief clerk.

Purely Civil Service Basis.

The same thing is true throughout the country. President Cleveland has placed the internal revenue and customs employees under the civil service rules, and what with the letter carriers, postoffice clerks and railway mail men already under the protection of the new idea there is precious little remaining for the spoilsman to get hold of. It is practically settled that President McKinley will not undo anything that was done by his predecessors in the way of promoting civil service reform. He so declared in his letter of acceptance and has so expressed himself in a number of his speeches. The truth is, though it takes a great many people a long time to realize it, that the United States government has actually approached a purely civil service basis. The day of spoils seeking at every change of party in power is at an end. Only one great class of government employees remain to be brought under the protection of the civil service. These are the fourth class postmasters. There are now nearly 70,000 postmasters in the United States, and of these 60,000 are what are known as non-presidential—that is, the salaries of the postmasters amount to less than \$1,000 per year, and appointments are made directly by the department. Of these some 60,000 are fourth class offices.

There has been a great deal of agitation in favor of having these offices all put under the civil service before President Cleveland retired from office. It was thought by some that a president has not the moral right to issue such an order after an election which has retired his party from power, but the best answer to that argument is that such a thing was done by Mr. Cleveland himself just before going out of office eight years ago, when he issued an order placing all the railway mail employees under the civil service rules.

Fourth Class Postmasters.

The understanding in Washington is that President Cleveland had about made up his mind to issue an executive order removing the 60,000 fourth class postmasters from the reach of hungry place hunters, but that an obstacle was met in the civil service commission itself. The orders issued by President Cleveland last spring, placing the internal revenue, customs and other employees under the civil service, proved to be as much as the commission could stand. That order entailed such an enormous amount of work that the commission is not now prepared to take on its shoulders the task of arranging for care of the 60,000 postmasters, and hence the president was compelled to abandon the idea.

While the general argument in favor of permanency of service for tried and tested employees seems to hold good in the case of fourth class postmasters, some of the best men in the postoffice department do not favor the change. They say that the departments direct and without going through the cumbersome routine of a civil service examination. It happens in many cases that the only person in a little village or a country crossroads who is competent to take charge of the postoffice is the keeper of the general store. If he has the office, the people are conveniently supplied. If, through competitive examination, some other person gets it, there will be great doubt as to the ability of the new postmaster to maintain the office in a convenient place. There is doubtless some force in this objection, but the general sentiment is in favor of putting all postmasters of this class under the civil service, and doubtless the change will be made during the coming four years.

The Pension Plan.

Now that the United States government through extension of the civil service machine has built up a class of permanent civil employees, another step remains to be taken to make the system perfect. That is the institution of a civil pension and retirement scheme. Here in Washington we see the practical workings of civil service very clearly. It does tend to make employees feel sure of their places as long as they properly attend to their duties. It does substitute merit and usefulness for the old way of seeking retention through political influence. On the whole, it surely improves the quality of service rendered. But the trouble is that once in office always in office has become the rule.

Beyond a certain age government employees, like private employees, become less and less useful. It would be inhuman to turn them out in their old age, when they would find it almost impossible to get new employment. Yet it is a bad business method to retain them purely out of charity. This difficulty has long been recognized, and various propositions for the establishment of a civil pension list have been brought forward, but nothing has been accomplished up to the present time. In the near future, it is believed, congress will pass a bill providing for a pension list and for retirement at the age of 63 or 65. The money for payment of pensions will not be appropriated by the government, but will come out of the salaries of the employees month by month through all their term of service. In this way their old age will be provided for, and the heads of bureaus will not be compelled to retain out of pity men and women who have outgrown their usefulness. Besides the system of compulsory retirement will make room for a few new appointments as the old ones drop out.

WALTER WELLMAN.

THE LITTLE FRENCH GIRL.

She is a Miniature Woman and is Taught All Feminine Arts.

However innocent she may be, a little French girl is much more of a little woman than a child of any other nationality. She does not romp; she is demure and quiet in her games, which are often imitations of a grown person's life. She is trying to learn how to be the mistress of her house by means of her dolls, furniture, kitchen and dishes. Feminine arts are still a part of every well arranged French education. Men really care more for these accomplishments than for others, as they make stay at home wives who look after their households, and as a Frenchwoman's principal aim is to please her future husband every mother prepares her daughter for this end. This is why she does not permit too close an intimacy with little boy cousins, because ten years later a jealous husband would take a dislike to these friendly cousins, nor would he like his wife's bosom friends, in whom she confides and who never leave her, any better.

Mother, therefore, permit few if any intimacies, and these are all winnowed and selected with the greatest care. One advantage of this system is that the name of friend is not carelessly bestowed right and left. It takes time and good reasons for simple acquaintances to rise to that rank. The mother not only wards off little boy cousins and intimate girl friends, but she discourages the little girl in showing off her knowledge out of the classroom, for she is fully aware that nothing could be less attractive in the eyes of the expected lord and master than a bluestocking.

A bright little girl I could name had by chance picked up some astronomical scraps, together with other scientific facts, which allowed her to shine now and then. One evening, while playing in the garden, she heard a friend of her father's exclaim, "What a dazzling star!" "That is not a star, sir," she said; "it is a planet." Her mother was in despair, for she would rather a hundred times have found her ignorant than have seen her "show off," or capable of committing the enormity of contradicting an older person. "I hope," she said jestingly, as a sort of excuse, "that when she is 18 the poor little thing will have forgotten a great part of what she knows today!"—Th. Bentzon in Century.

IN NATURAL COLORS.

Lifelike Tints Imparted to an Ordinary Photograph.

It has been known for a long time that if the sun's rays are allowed to shine upon the glass side of a photographic negative and the eye is brought into the proper position it is possible to see the positive picture in the original natural colors of the object photographed. From a scientific standpoint this is sometimes a matter of very great importance. In order to bring out this quality of a negative independently of the sun's rays Professor Lippmann has, after long study, constructed an apparatus which enables him to obtain the same result with artificial light. He employs a gas lamp with a Welsbach burner, the rays of which are thrown upon the negative by means of a lens, in order to have the rays strike the negative parallel.

The negative is for the purpose mounted upon a wooden stand with a black polished surface. Another large lens, held in a black frame, is mounted on a separate stand, and a diaphragm held upon the same stand is provided immediately in front of the focus of this larger lens. To see the picture in all its natural beauty of color the angle at which the negative is examined must be exactly the same as the angle at which the parallel rays strike it. It is in the reflection of the light rays and its distribution through the larger lens that the picture, which is fastened upon the negative in dull black tones, is again dissolved into its original resplendent beauty. Aside from its scientific importance, it is a matter of considerable moment, for instance, in reproduction of portraits in oil after a photograph, since tints of hair, eyes and complexion are plainly discernible in the artificially colored positive thus produced from the black negative.—Exchange.

The Dangers of Divers.

The greatest danger to those who dive into the sea for valuables that have been sunk is that of falling asleep.

On a hot day the contrast between the heat above and the delicious coolness below water is apt to make a diver sleepy. One of these men stated that he once slept half an hour at the bottom of a wreck, where he was laying a pipe.

Supposing that had happened in a channel where the tide runs so swiftly that a diver can work only during the one hour of slack water, the deadly rush of tide would have snatched the lifeline and hose. Then in working wrecks there is the danger of getting jammed in between freight or of getting the hose or line entangled. When the hose snaps at a great depth the tremendous pressure kills the diver. He is frightfully distorted by it.—Pearson's Weekly.

Steam Whistles.

The cause of sound in a steam whistle is the same as in any form of whistle or an organ pipe—viz, a vibration of the atmosphere induced by a vibration set up in a steam jet directed against the edge of the bell, the vibration of the air or steam column in the bell influencing the tone according to its length and diameter.—New York Ledger.

In New Jersey wheat raising costs \$20.20 per acre. Therefore the Jersey man cultivates vegetables and berries for the markets of New York and Philadelphia.

Alfonso X of Leon and Castile was the Wise. The same title was bestowed upon Solomon, king of the Jews, Charles V of France and Che-Tsun of China.

A Superstitious Fancy.

A young business man went home the other evening with a very fine feather duster for his wife, who is a practical housekeeper, albeit she is also a graduate of Vassar and well up in all the isms and eclogies of the day. It must be remembered that the conversation which ensued was not held in the dark ages, but in the present enlightenment of the nineteenth century.

"Here's something you'll appreciate, Maud," he said as he began to undo the numerous wrappings. "There was only one, and it came over in two ships."

"What in the world is it, you dear, old thing?" cried Maud, dancing around him.

"Guess, sweetheart."

"Oh, I know! It's a new umbrella for my birthday."

"Nothing of the sort. Shut your eyes. Now open them. There!"

An immense duster of magnificent peacock feathers, released from its sheath of wrappings, was flourished before the young woman's eyes. She gave one look at it, then burst out crying.

"Oh, you cruel boy! When you know how u-n-l-u-c-k-y it is to have peacock feathers in the house, and what dreadful trouble it makes to g-g-ive any one feathers!" sobbed Maud.

"Then you don't want this feather duster?"

"Not for the world!"

"Maud!"

"I have a great mind to throw this out of the window."

"I wish you would, dear. We'll never have any luck with it in the house."

And the man who, going home late that night, picked it up has been congratulating himself ever since on his lucky find.—Detroit Free Press.

A Laughing Disease.

From Austria comes a curious account of a man suffering from a nervous disease that manifests itself in paroxysms of laughter. The patient, whose case was described before the Psychiatric and Neurological society of Vienna, was 30 years of age and had been subject for three years to fits of laughter, which occurred at first every two or three months, gradually increasing in frequency to a dozen or more a day. The attacks occurred especially between 9 in the evening and 6:30 in the morning, and in greatest frequency between 6 and 6:30. Some occurred also during the day, however the patient happened to be occupied. In the intervals between the attacks and immediately before and afterward the man was perfectly well.

The attacks set in with a tickling sensation arising from the toes of the left foot, and the patient would fall to the ground unless he could reach some place to lie down. When this feeling reached the level of the left nipple, the patient lost consciousness for a few seconds. Often the patient lay upon his face. The mouth and eyes were closed spasmodically, the eyeballs turned upward, the pupils were dilated and unresponsive to light. At the height of the attack the patient at first smiled, and then laughed aloud without other sign of merriment. The entire attack occupied about two minutes. On two occasions there was protracted loss of consciousness.—Popular Science News.

George Du Maurier's Double.

Mr. Du Maurier had a double, and his double was, as many people are aware, Mr. Alma Tadema. So remarkable was the resemblance that even their most intimate friends frequently mistook them.

A certain young lady, however, prided herself that she had no difficulty in determining which was which. On one occasion, finding herself seated next to Du Maurier at dinner, she remarked:

"I cannot understand how any one can mistake you for Mr. Tadema. To me the likeness is very slight." Presently she added: "By the way, I have a photograph of you. Do be so good as to put your autograph to it."

Mr. Du Maurier assenting graciously, the photograph was afterward produced. He looked at it for a moment, sighed and then very gently laid it on the table.

"That," he remarked, "is Mr. Alma Tadema's portrait."—Pearson's Weekly.

The Only Difference Was the Price.

"In a famous London auction room the other day a copy of Goldsmith's 'Deserted Village,' the octavo edition, which is commonly called 'the first,' was sold to an American buyer for \$125. Next day a bookseller whose shop is almost next door to the auction room sold a copy of the same edition for 75 cents." The person who bought the copy for 75 cents certainly got a bargain, but it is doubtful that the other purchaser will get as much for his copy as he paid for it. The incident shows what curious things happen in the trade in old books. Nor is it an isolated case. On the contrary, it is only one of a great many like it.—New York Tribune.

A Sad Picture.

At Vargin once, after sitting for some time sunk in profound reflection, Bismarck lamented that he had derived but small pleasure or satisfaction from his political activity, but on the other hand much vexation, anxiety and trouble. He had, he said, made no one happy by it—neither himself, his family, nor any one else. "But probably," he continued, "many unhappy. Had it not been for me there would have been three great wars the less, the lives of 80,000 men would not have been sacrificed, and many parents, brothers, sisters and widows would not now be mourners."—Bismarck's Table Talk.

Rarely Considerate.

He (playfully)—How old are you, Miss Brown?

She—I cannot tell a lie. I—

"Oh, if that is the case, I will not take a mean advantage of you. I will draw the question."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

ULSTERS IN MANY ATTRACTIVE STYLES.

All Grades of Winter Underwear With Prices Graded Also.

We have also a splendid line of the latest thing in neckwear and other gentlemen's furnishing goods. Sole agency for the

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With overshoes to fit all styles.

W. A. WASHBURN CO. HANCOCK, MICH.

FOR SALE!

THE MICHIGAN HOUSE,

Corner of Oak and Sixth Streets, Red Jacket.

Lot 23 and 24, block 13, Calumet, known as the George's property on Lake Linden road. Lots 1 and 2, block 2, Tamarack City.

Also improved and unimproved Farm Lands for sale and to lease. A large lot of Timbered Lands, in this and adjoining county, for sale.

Abstracts of Title furnished. Taxes paid or non-residents.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

J. A. SHERMAN,

Room 3, Strobel Bld., Houghton, Mich.

R. R. TIME-TABLES.

Passenger Trains on M. R. R. R.

In effect December 29, 1895.

a m p m	p m	a m	a m	a m
7:45	12:15	5:00	Red Jacket	8:30 9:40 10:10
7:51	12:21	5:06	Laurium	8:36 9:46 10:16
7:57	12:27	5:12	Oscoda	8:42 9:52 10:22
8:04	12:34	5:19	Hancock	8:49 9:59 10:29
8:10	12:40	5:25	Houghton	8:55 10:05 10:35
a m p m	p m	a m		
7:45	12:15	5:00	Ar p m	8:30 9:40 10:10

* Daily. + Daily except Sunday.

Passenger Trains on H. & C. R. R.

In effect December 29, 1895.

a m p m	p m	a m	a m	a m
7:45	12:15	5:00	Lake Linden	8:30 9:40 10:10
7:47	12:17	5:02	Linwood	8:32 9:42 10:12
7:50	12:20	5:05	S. L. Linden	8:35 9:45 10:15
7:53	12:23	5:08	Mills	8:38 9:48 10:18
7:56	12:26	5:11	Woodside	8:41 9:51 10:21
8:07	12:37	5:22	Dollar Bay	8:52 10:02 10:32
8:23	12:53	5:40	Hancock	9:10 10:20 10:50
8:40	1:10	5:58	Houghton	9:27 10:37 11:07
a m p m	p m	a m		
7:45	12:15	5:00	Ar p m	8:30 9:40 10:10

* Daily. + Daily except Sunday.

THE D. S. S. Marquette & A. R. R. ROUTE.

Time Table:

In effect September 14, 1895.

TRAINS LEAVE HOUGHTON

For Detroit, east and the Gogebic Range.....7:00 a. m.
For Chicago and Marquette.....12:25 p. m.

TRAINS ARRIVE HOUGHTON

From Marquette, Chicago and the Gogebic Range.....7:00 a. m.
From Detroit and the east.....7:12 p. m.

* Daily. + Daily except Sunday.

For tickets, time tables and other information apply to J. H. FORD, Ticket Agent, Red Jacket, Mich.

Map of

Chicago Milwaukee

a St. Paul Railroad.

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